

NORTHWEST COMMUNICATIONS

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Amery Telcom,
Somerset Telephone Company,
and Northwest Community
Communications
Doing Business as
Northwest Communications

January 20, 2017

Matthew S. DelNero
Wireline Competition Bureau Chief
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Filed Via ECFS

Re: Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet, GN Docket No. 14-28, Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90, Developing a Unified Inter-carrier compensation Regime, CC Docket No. 01-92

Dear Mr. DelNero:

Pursuant to the Federal Communication Commission's *Open Internet Order*¹ Somerset Telephone Company, Inc. (SA #330951) hereby notifies the Bureau of its intention to cease offering broadband Internet transmission service as a separate component of its broadband Internet access service effective April 1, 2017. As such, the transmission component will only be provided as part of the complete broadband Internet access service.

The FCC made clear in the *Rate-of-Return Connect America Fund Order*², as well as the *Clarification Order*³, that a rate-of-return carrier could make the offering described above, and thus the revenues associated with the broadband Internet access transmission would no longer be subject to the federal universal service fund assessment pursuant to FCC Form 499-A.

Somerset Telephone Company, Inc. currently provides broadband Internet transmission service as a detariffed Title II offering. The only customer for the Company's broadband Internet transmission service is the Company's affiliate nonregulated ISP. Notice to the affiliate ISP was provided this date by interoffice memorandum that the Company will discontinue the offering of broadband Internet transmission service as a separate component of its broadband Internet access service effective April 1, 2017.

¹Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet, GN Docket No. 14-28, Report and Order on Remand, Declaratory Ruling and Order, 30 FCC Rcd 5601, ¶ 460 & n. 1378 (2015).

²Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90, et al., Report & Order, Order & Order on Reconsideration & Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 16-33, ¶ 194, n. 428 (rel. Mar. 30, 2016)

³Connect America Fund, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, et al., Order DA 16-661, ¶ 25 (WCB, rel. June 15, 2016) (citing the Open Internet Order).

Somerset Telephone Company, Inc. has provided a copy of this notice to the Special Assistant for Telecommunications of the Department of Defense, the Governor of Wisconsin, and the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

This notice is effective April 1, 2017, unless withdrawn or extended prior to that time.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Jensen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Jensen
Vice President

Cc: Special Assistant for Telecommunications at the Department of Defense
The Office of the Honorable Scott Walker, Governor of Wisconsin
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin